

THE LOUISVILLE DAILY JOURNAL.

VOLUME XXXII.

LOUISVILLE JOURNAL

[Correspondence of the Louisville Journal.]

INCIDENTS OF THE FIELD OF SHILOH.

BATTLE-FIELD OF SHILOH, WAS PITTING LANDS.

APRIL 18.

While many of the unfortunate field who fell on the eventful Sunday and Monday last are still unconscious to their mother earth, and the foul vapors of the carcasses of forty steeds slaughtered in the late conflict fill the air, one might readily believe that the thirst for further intelligence from the great battle-field is at a point where any lame account would be devoured by the eager populace with as much gratification as the best production of the *LLD* of London Times. As for a complete account of this great struggle, such as a thing of fact of existing circumstances were indeed impossible—not can it be obtained by the most accomplished and skillful correspondent for weeks to come.

After journeying from this place some time since to Island No 10, without finding sufficient material for a letter, I returned, arriving here in time to witness and participate in the dreadful battle, which raged for twenty three out of thirty-six hours.

The attack was not altogether unexpected, as stated in the first account, but evidence of a speedy approach of the crash of arms were exhibited by the rebels on the previous Friday evening, the enemy's cavalry having driven in our pickets a mile and a half in advance of Gen. Sherman's centre on the main Corinth road, by which we lost a Lieutenant and seven men prisoners, and the following day (Saturday) the enemy's cavalry were again discovered on a ridge overlooking General Prentiss's camp, and were shot by our cavalry and severely wounded.

From all the evidence thus far obtained, the enemy had for several days been directing his observation to Gen. Prentiss's command, and doubtless knew his to be the weaker position—his pickets, if any he had, were few and far between; but before any attack in force had been made, Gen. Sherman had his forces drawn up in line to receive him.

It was about 7 o'clock when the enemy's picks opened fire upon Sherman's lines and his staff were riding along in front; the enemy then being concealed in the brushwood along Sherman's front and the west side of a small stream.

The enemy's attack was made in the vicinity of Prentiss's camp, and regiment after regiment could be seen moving in an oblique direction against the position held by Prentiss.

The disposition of the forces at this time was as follows:

First Division, commanded by Major-General John A. McClernand, occupied the extreme right, with his leftlapping on the right of Gen. Prentiss's division, and to the rear of General Sherman's, whose left also lapped on the right of Prentiss; while the division of Major-General G. F. Smith held the extreme left, with its right in close proximity with Sherman's left and Prentiss's right.

The fire had scarcely commenced on Sherman's advance, which proved to be but little more than a faint, before heavy fire was heard in the direction of Prentiss's camp, while large bodies of rebel infantry could be seen moving, stated above, obliquely against the camp of Prentiss, who was completely surprised, his men scattering in disorder and retreating before the advancing enemy, and receiving dire punishment from other troops as they went. Many of Prentiss's men were shot down, while at breakfast and otherwise while lounging about the camp and in their tents, and most of those who escaped from the advance did so without securing their arms. Hurst's division, which held position to the left and rear of Prentiss, was promptly and immediately ordered into line and moved up to the support of Prentiss just in time to check the advance of the enemy and stop the retreat of Prentiss's division.

By this time the engagement had become general along the whole line, the enemy's fire becoming more terrible and destructive as the forces and our men fell back.

About the time that Sherman was becoming generally engaged, three regiments from General McClernand's division, sent at the request of Gen. Sherman, arrived to support of Waterhouse's First Illinois battery, which was posted on a ridge to the left, with a front fire across an open field, between the Fifty-third and Fifty-seventh Ohio regiments and as the enemy advanced our infantry and artillery moved up a mile to the rear, and discovered the position of the enemy, which for a time checked their advance, but a mile and a half distance, and the rest of the Ohioans, except a portion of McDowell's and Buckland's brigades, followed the disgraceful example inaugurated by Apple and his regiment; and all became disorder and confusion. But the brave Illinoisans stood nobly up to their work, contending in a most heroic manner every inch of ground, after being deserted and disengaged by the pugnacious mid-westerners of their sister State. They were finally forced to fall back to avoid being surrounded by the overwhelming numbers of the enemy.

About 10 o'clock I rode over to the left of Hurst's division through a piece of wood sheltered by a small ridge which was occupied by a portion of Hurst's, Prentiss's, and Smith's divisions, and firing while partially sheltered, in company with a squad of the 5th Ohio cavalry, attempted to discover the location of the enemy and ascertain his designs. We had proceeded but a short distance down the ravine when a vigorous fire was opened upon the force in our advance, which was responded to by our troops, and a continuous crack of musketry kept up for the space of twenty minutes, when our boys were again forced to fall back, and the enemy advanced rapidly—pressing our men to the right and turning our flanks.

At the time the firing from our extreme left to McClernand's right had become terrific, and it was an impossible matter for one to hold on to whose favor the tide was flowing. I immediately rode to the centre of Hurst's column where the Seventeenth and Twenty-fifth Kentucky, commanded by Colonel John H. McHenry, of 17th were engaging the enemy (Colonel Bristow of the 25th, after having received a serious injury by the fall of his horse, having turned over his command to Colonel McHenry). Our boys lay under cover of some timber to the rear of an open field, and were under a heavy fire from the enemy's artillery.

A force of the enemy came filing out of the wood on the opposite side of the field in a diagonal direction, when, upon getting into the field, the 17th and 25th opened a destructive fire into their ranks which drove them back into the woods, leaving the field literally strewn with dead and wounded. Not only here but over every occasion throughout the long hours of this dreadful day, and all its sickening horrifying and disengaging conflicts, Col. McHenry exhibited a valour and a spirit only equal to that of the most courageous and dauntless of heroes, who was owing destruction and desolation around. He rode fearlessly in front and along his lines encouraging and by his noble example cheering on his men, and not alone, for Lieutenant Colonel Stone, unknown and knowing no fear, could be seen among his men wherever the bolts of death flew thick, while the desperate bravery of Major Isaac Calhoun and Adjutant Starling was nowhere exceeded on that bloody field. It was here that the gallant Capt. Preston Morton re-

ceived a wound which terminated fatally on the following day, but not until the shout of our victorious army illuminated the sad moments of his last hours. Here also it was that Captain Robert Vaughan, while nobly cheering his men, received a shot above the forehead, which was at first supposed fatal, but from which he is happily fast recovering.

The other regiments constituting General Sherman's brigade, the 1st Indiana, Colonel Charles Crafts and 44th Indiana, Col. Reed, bore conspicuous parts by the side of our Kentucky regiments—all encouraged by the noble example of General Lauman. In fact, this half a division seemed inspired by the noble conduct of their intrepid commander, Gen. S. A. Hartford, who, together with his valiant staff, Capt. C. Lovell, and the rest of the divisional officers, including General Lauman, the enemy was at first fierce and vigorous, but as the fading pulse of the dying day it grew fainter and weaker, until it died away with closing daylight.

This closed one of the bloodiest and most eventful days ever known to the American people; for, twelve long and weary hours, a force of thirty-eight thousand Union soldiers (including the Neway Indians), bore successfully with a rebel force (according to their own acknowledge- ments) of upwards of eighty thousand to infinity.

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At 10 o'clock Gen. Sherman, although exhibiting the utmost bravery, and making every effort to keep his men together, had lost most of his command. Col. D. Sturz's brigade had been surrounded by the enemy and was obliged to cut their way through, in which Col. Sturz, who had shown the bravery of a Caesar, received a painful wound through the chest, but still kept the field. Sherman was now obliged to consolidate his force with that of Gen. McClernand, whose force was occupying Sherman's division, and the division of Major-General G. F. Smith held the extreme left, with its right in close proximity with Sherman's left and Prentiss's right.

A special attack was now made on General Sherman's front, and here the General distinguished himself by leading his men up in the very thickness of the enemy's fire. The 49th Illinois, seeing that the enemy was about to flank him on the left, Lieutenant-Colonel Pease presented a front to the enemy in that direction, who was advancing in solid column, five regiments and reserve, and ready for the advance of the enemy, and was about to be flanked by the rebels.

At 12 o'clock Gen. Sherman, although exhibiting the utmost bravery, and making every effort to keep his men together, had lost most of his command. Col. D. Sturz's brigade had been surrounded by the enemy and was obliged to cut their way through, in which Col. Sturz, who had shown the bravery of a Caesar, received a painful wound through the chest, but still kept the field. Sherman was now obliged to consolidate his force with that of Gen. McClernand, whose force was occupying Sherman's division, and the division of Major-General G. F. Smith held the extreme left, with its right in close proximity with Sherman's left and Prentiss's right.

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The claims of the Gas Company, for \$100, for gas for quarter ending April 1, 1862, was referred to Committee on Gas and Water.

A communication was received from the Engineer of the estimate of the cost of elevating the old portion of the market-house between Floyd and Preston streets, which was referred to Committee on Public Works.

The Engineer's report of the number of men of streets and alleys in the Eastern and Western Districts was read and referred to Committee on Streets and Alleys.

The report of the Chief of the Fire Department for the month of March, 1862, was referred to Committee on Fire Department.

The report of the Superintendent of the Alms-House for the month of March, 1862, was referred to Committee on Alms-House.

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LOUISVILLE JOURNAL
GUNN STREET, BETWEEN THIRD AND FOURTH
PRENTICE, HENDERSON, & OSBORNE,
PROPRIETORS.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICES IN ADVANCE
Daily Journal, delivered in the City, \$10 per month.
For the first six months, \$5 per month, with three
months' Country Daily, \$6; Tri-Weekly, \$5; for any
other paper, \$4.50 per month. *Weekly*, \$2.
Evening Bulletin, \$2; if mailed, \$2.50.
CLUB PRICES, \$1 to each.
Weekly Advertising—\$1 to each.
ADVERTISING—\$1 to each.
JOURNAL—\$1 to each.
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For full particulars as to terms of yearly advertising, &c., see first column.

GEO. D. PRENTICE, Editor.
PAUL H. SHILDON, Local Editor and Reporter.

MONDAY, APRIL 21, 1862.

It takes a week or two, if not a month or two, to extract a coherent and intelligible idea of a great battle from the confused, exaggerated, and contradictory accounts of eye-witnesses and others. It demands too a share of integrity and candor, which, in the part of the enemies of our great and good government, are evidently lost facilities, for they still persistently and clamorously claim the battle on the field of Shiloh as a victory. To this claim it is necessary to apply only a single test to prove its utter fallacy. A defeat on the one side is tantamount to a victory on the other. Now what were the objects proposed by Johnston and Beauregard in their masterly surprise and dashing assault? Most evidently their intention was to cut off the Federal armies by divisions to drive General Grant's force over the river or into the river, or to capture the whole of it before Gen. Buell's divisions could come up. They utterly failed in every one of these designs, and their defeat is a substantial and glorious victory on our side. Apply another test. Wherever did a victorious General, by flag of truce, humbly ask of the conquered General for permission to visit the field of battle for the purpose of removing or burying the dead?

We have already called attention to a most culpable deficiency on the part of the advanced corps of our army, in being taken so completely by surprise. Some one ought, and will, no doubt, be held to an awful accountability for it before an indignant country and an astonished world. There seems to be nothing but the force of circumstances that the foregone conclusion that Beauregard would await an attack in a fortified camp, as he had so stubbornly done in Virginia, had taken such entire possession of the minds of both officers and men that the contrary supposition could not, or did not, find admission for a moment.

The most simpleton can now perceive that the exact contrary was in this case to be expected—a dashing movement, and if possible a surprise. And had it not been that our Generals fully vindicated us tried and nobly qualified, for which a generous country had long in advance given them credit, and had not the metal of our troops turned out first proof for enduring patience and indomitable endurance under inconceivable difficulties and discouragements, no doubt the country would have mourned a defeat as disastrous as the enemy could have desired. A certain correspondent used an expression about this action which, though not very common, is certainly very striking; he calls it an "inconsequential victory." That remains to be proved. Should Commodore Foote, with the aid of General Pope, find it possible to capture Memphis, and General Mitchell to hold his position at Huntsville, the rebel forces at Corinth will find themselves completely outflanked, and an advance of our united army, if not exactly flushed with victory, yet more determined and dogged than ever because the enemy claims one, will be driven forward by a sternness of purpose which a discouraged if not a defeated army will be in but a poor condition to resist.

A year ago the Nashville papers looked like dairies, so full were they of exhibitions of the milk of human kindness. Doctors advertised their professional services gratuitously to the families of those who had volunteered in the Confederate army; public school teachers taught the young idea how to shoot, without pay, in consideration for their parents who were coming in to shoot down Kentucky Unionists; led for battle was tendered free of charge; Gov. Harris was authorized to draw on certain individuals for any amount, and landlords offered tenements rent free to the wives and children of soldiers. Nashville was in fact principally in the munificence of its promises; gorgious in its display of charity and benevolence; and its horn of plenty was lavishly emptied from both ends into the laps of its indigent but lucky inhabitants. Well, time tries all things, even the ostentatious professions of rebel sympathizers. About a month since the Western Union Sanitary Commission wrote to Gov. General Johnson that there were daily discharged from the hospitals at St. Louis citizens of Tennessee, formerly belonging to the rebel army, who had become convalescent and were wandering the streets without the means of living or returning to their homes, and the Commission requested that transportation and subsistence should be forwarded for them. In view of these statements, Gov. Johnson made a public appeal "not only to the charitable but especially to those who have been instrumental in reducing their misguided fellow-citizens to this sad degree of suffering, and who have been laborers in the unholy work in which they were engaged, to come forward and contribute to their relief." What was the response? Did doctors or school-teachers, or pig-headed dealers in pig, lead, or bakers, or landlords, who in April last made such a parade of their liberality, open their hands or pockets for the relief of these unfortunate convalescent soldiers? Was the horn of plenty sent to St. Louis to gladden the sight of men exiled from their homes and pining to return to their families and friends? How much did the prodigal and lavish charity of Nashville subscribe? History must be written fairly and impartially, and, therefore, we answer—Not one dollar! Not even a donation of Confederate sailors! The milk of human kindness was frozen in its laetest fons; money chests were double padlocked, and the discharged Confederate soldiers who have been prisoners in hospitals may starve and die and rot for all that Nashville cares! This exemplifies most strikingly the selfishness and the hollow-heartedness of secession. Municipal in its professions to induce its deluded victims to serve in its armies, it has no more regard or consideration for them when their services are no longer required or useful than it would have for so many sheep with the rot, and swine with the hog-cholera.

Miss Cunningham, the representative of the Ladies' M. V. Association, remains in charge of the property in and around which repose the remains of George Washington, and visitors have again come to pay their respects from Washington, since the blockade of the Potowmack has removed—*Chicago Journal*.

Miss Cunningham is an accomplished lady, but we do not think that she should be continued regent of the Mt. Vernon Association. Her heart and soul are in the rebellion. She was an early rebel. When South Carolina alone had seceded from the Union, she had and insisted that South Carolina had done right.

We know little as to the character of the present title to the Mt. Vernon property or what hands it is vested in, but we think that no rebel, however established and excellent as an individual, should be the nation's appointed guardian of Washington's sacred dust.

The editor of the San Antonio Ledger complains of having been "picked up." Probably, if he hadn't been, he would have perished where he lay.

The army of the Union, as the Editor of the N. Y. Times well says, is now complete, and an order has gone forth throughout all the land that entitles it to rest. The routing-sargeant henceforth ceases his bland peregrinations, and the ear-piercing fife shall no longer summon "able-bodied young men" to the pride, pomp, and circumstance of glorious war. The grand triumphal procession that for near a year has moved through our city, en route for the seat of war, our eyes shall look no more. Or, when we do, 'twill be when the return tide sets in—when the holy mission on which those patriot soldiers went shall have been accomplished in the crushing of this foul rebellion, and our returning heroes, with the consecration of the sacred cause and the glorious scars of battle and of victory upon them, shall come back to the homes they have secured forever to freedom.

When, less than twelve months ago, President Lincoln issued his proclamation calling for a single battle to free the confused, exaggerated, and contradictory accounts of eye-witnesses and others. It demands too a share of integrity and candor, which, in the part of the enemies of our great and good government, are evidently lost facilities, for they still persistently and clamorously claim the battle on the field of Shiloh as a victory.

To this claim it is necessary to apply only a single test to prove its utter fallacy. A defeat on the one side is tantamount to a victory on the other. Now what were the objects proposed by Johnston and Beauregard in their masterly surprise and dashing assault? Most evidently their intention was to cut off the Federal armies by divisions to drive General Grant's force over the river or into the river, or to capture the whole of it before Gen. Buell's divisions could come up. They utterly failed in every one of these designs, and their defeat is a substantial and glorious victory on our side. Apply another test. Wherever did a victorious General, by flag of truce, humbly ask of the conquered General for permission to visit the field of battle for the purpose of removing or burying the dead?

We have already called attention to a most culpable deficiency on the part of the advanced corps of our army, in being taken so completely by surprise. Some one ought, and will, no doubt, be held to an awful accountability for it before an indignant country and an astonished world. There seems to be nothing but the force of circumstances that the foregone conclusion that Beauregard would await an attack in a fortified camp, as he had so stubbornly done in Virginia, had taken such entire possession of the minds of both officers and men that the contrary supposition could not, or did not, find admission for a moment.

The most simpleton can now perceive that the exact contrary was in this case to be expected—a dashing movement, and if possible a surprise. And had it not been that our Generals fully vindicated us tried and nobly qualified, for which a generous country had long in advance given them credit, and had not the metal of our troops turned out first proof for enduring patience and indomitable endurance under inconceivable difficulties and discouragements, no doubt the country would have mourned a defeat as disastrous as the enemy could have desired. A certain correspondent used an expression about this action which, though not very common, is certainly very striking; he calls it an "inconsequential victory."

That remains to be proved. Should Commodore Foote, with the aid of General Pope, find it possible to capture Memphis, and General Mitchell to hold his position at Huntsville, the rebel forces at Corinth will find themselves completely outflanked, and an advance of our united army, if not exactly flushed with victory, yet more determined and dogged than ever because the enemy claims one, will be driven forward by a sternness of purpose which a discouraged if not a defeated army will be in but a poor condition to resist.

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MONDAY, APRIL 21, 3 A. M.

PHYSIOLOGICAL RECORD—APRIL 20.
COMPOSED DAILY BY W. WOODRIDGE,
Corporal Second and Chemist, U. S. A.

[Correspondence of the Louisville Journal.]
CASUALTIES IN THE SEVENTEENTH KENTUCKY REGIMENT.
OWENSBORO, April 16, 1862.

Below you will find an accurate list of the killed and wounded in Colonel John McHenry's 17th regiment Kentucky volunteers during the stubborn struggle of the 6th and 7th at Ft. Burg Landen:

REMOVED.

